

TOP SECRET  
IDEALIST

IDEA 0050-68  
Copy 7 of 8

10 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of Mission S018E

1. General: Mission S018E was alerted on 25 March 1968 for a round robin mission with launch and recovery from [redacted] on 27 March 1968. This mission was flown [redacted]

Preplanned Mission Data:

Distance	1396 NM
Time to Landing	3+55 Hours
Mission Profile	Maximum Altitude
Take off Fuel	895 Gallons
Fuel Reserve at Hi Cone	250 Gallons

Targets: The route of this mission was planned to obtain photo coverage of the Cambodia/Thailand border as [redacted] There were no COMINT targets covered on this mission.

2. Actual Mission Data: Take off was [redacted] as scheduled. Landing time was [redacted] for a mission duration of four hours.

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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**a. Target Coverage:**

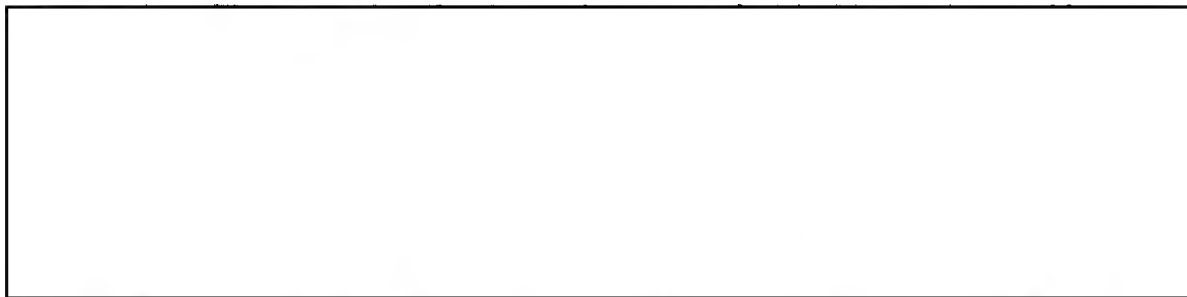
There were no COMIREX targets in the area covered on this mission.  with military activity related to troop and artillery encampments, military equipment and installations, aircraft and airfields, and road construction. The pilot observed possible construction and a build up near Samrong Airfield. He also noted active grading and leveling on the Thai-Cambodia road in the vicinity of Poipet (1340N 10234E).

25X1C

b. Weather in the target area was as briefed except on the third flight line where the pilot deviated 15 miles right of course due to haze and CAT IV variable III.

**3. Air Defense Reactions:** There were no Air Defense Reactions reported.

25X1D



**6. Photo Analysis:** The overall photo analysis on this mission was good with 20 percent cloud cover. The Delta Camera malfunctioned on the last half of the last flight line. The shutter assembly went through the fail safe causing 1-4 slave instrument to shut down. This resulted in loss of stereo effect for the last 30 minutes of camera operation.

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7. Maintenance: Article 385 was flown on this mission. There were no aircraft general or flight instrument discrepancies.

8. Communications: Radio and nav aids operated satisfactorily. [ ] readout at [ ] was also satisfactory.

9. Actions to be Taken: Avionics and OEL were tasked to investigate the feasibility of a method of qualifying "L" band signals twice in the Oscar Sierra System before the amber light would come on. This would eliminate many Oscar Sierra low indications resulting from only one sample of a signal. Operations will review and determine the suitability of a one to four number count by the pilot when the Oscar Sierra low light comes on, he will then attempt to evaluate the signal to determine its validity and take appropriate action.

10. Critique for mission 5018E was held on 4 April 1968.

[ ]  
Chief, IDEALIST Division, OSA

Attachment - 1  
Route Overlay

IDEA/OSA [ ] ea (10 April 1968)  
Distribution:

- #1 - D/SA
- #2 - D/O/OSA
- #3 - SBD/RAD/OSA
- #4 - INTEL/OSA
- #5 - D/M/OSA
- #6 - IDEA/OSA
- #7 - RB/OSA
- #8 - Holdback

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25X1D

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